

Embassy of the United States, Kigali, Rwanda

## PRESS RELEASE

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## **United States Donates COVID-19 Vaccines for Rwanda**

KIGALI (August 18, 2021) — The U.S. Embassy in Kigali, Rwanda, announces the donation by the United States Government of 489,060 doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine as part of the Biden-Harris Administration's global efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. The U.S. government coordinated closely with COVAX and the African Union on the country allocations. U.S. donated vaccine doses are arriving on August 18 and 20, 2021. This donation helps protect the people of Rwanda, especially those who are most vulnerable, from the ravages of the COVID-19 virus. Increasing vaccination coverage will help build back the Rwandan economy.

"The United States is pleased to provide these COVID-19 vaccine doses to save Rwandan lives and to lead the world in bringing an end to this global pandemic. Ubuzima bwanyu ni ubuzima bwacu kandi ubuzima bwacu ni ubuzima bwanyu." said U.S. Ambassador to Rwanda Peter H. Vrooman.

These 489,060 doses are part of the Biden-Harris Administration commitment to share U.S. vaccine supply with the world. The U.S. Government has already shared more than 110 million doses worldwide and has pledged to supply half a billion more vaccines by 2022. Rwanda is the first country to receive vaccines from this half a billion pledge. As we continue to fight the COVID-19 pandemic at home and work to end the pandemic worldwide, President Biden promised the United States will be an arsenal of vaccines for the world.

## As President Biden said:

"From the beginning of my presidency, we have been clear-eyed that we need to attack this virus globally as well. This is about our responsibility — our humanitarian obligation to save as many lives as we can — and our responsibility to our values. We're going to help lead the world out of this pandemic, working alongside our global partners."

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